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INFO DIA WASHDC
JICPAC HONOLULU HI
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AMCONSUL SHANGHAI
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMCONSUL GUANGZHOU
AMEMBASSY MANILA
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY BEIJING
AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY SEOUL

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 06 TAIPEI 004246

E.O. 12958: 9/5/02

TAGS: PGOV PINR TW

SUBJECT: TAIWAN'S NEW CABINET -- BIO INFORMATION

REF: TAIPEI 4016

¶1. CLASSIFIED BY LAUREN MORIARTY, DEPUTY DIRECTOR,
AIT/T. REASON: 1.5 (D).

¶2. (U) BEGIN INTRODUCTION: AS REPORTED REFTEL, THE
15TH KMT CENTRAL STANDING COMMITTEE ON AUGUST 28
APPROVED THE APPOINTMENTS OF A SLIGHTLY RESHUFFLED
CABINET UNDER INCOMING PREMIER VINCENT SIEW. SIEW AND
HIS CABINET WERE SWORN IN ON SEPTEMBER 1. SIEW'S
FORTY-MEMBER CABINET INCLUDES 12 INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE
EITHER NEW FACES ENTIRELY OR HAVE SWITCHED POSITIONS.
BELOW WE PROVIDE BIO INFORMATION ON THOSE 12
INDIVIDUALS. END INTRODUCTION.

PREMIER: VINCENT SIEW

¶3. (U) VINCENT SIEW (HSIAO WAN-CHANG) WAS BORN IN 1939
IN CHIAYI CITY AND IS MARRIED TO SUSAN CHU. THEY HAVE
THREE DAUGHTERS. SIEW RECEIVED A BACHELOR OF ARTS AND
A MASTER'S DEGREE IN FOREIGN RELATIONS FROM NATIONAL
CHENGCHI UNIVERSITY, TAIPEI. (HE GRADUATED FIRST IN
HIS UNDERGRADUATE CLASS.) A FORMER MEMBER OF TAIWAN'S
FOREIGN SERVICE, SIEW SERVED AS VICE-CONSUL (1968-1969)
AND CONSUL (1969-1972) IN KUALA LUMPUR, MALAYSIA, AND
SECTION CHIEF AT THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (MOFA)
EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT (1972).

¶4. (C) MOVING TO THE ECONOMIC SPHERE, SIEW THEN SERVED
AS DEPUTY DIRECTOR AND SUBSEQUENTLY DIRECTOR OF THE
FOURTH (BILATERAL) DIVISION OF THE BOARD OF FOREIGN
TRADE (BOFT) IN THE MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS
(MOEA) (1972-1977). HE WAS PROMOTED TO DEPUTY
DIRECTOR-GENERAL AT THE BOFT (1977-1982) AND LATER TO
DIRECTOR-GENERAL (1982-1988). IN 1988, HE BECAME VICE-
CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL FOR ECONOMIC PLANNING AND
DEVELOPMENT (CEPD), AND, IN 1989, HE WAS MADE DIRECTOR
OF THE ORGANIZATIONAL AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT OF THE KMT
CENTRAL COMMITTEE. IN 1990, SIEW WAS APPOINTED
MINISTER OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS, A POST HE HELD UNTIL
¶1994. IN 1993, HE WAS MADE CONCURRENT CHAIRMAN OF THE
CEPD. SIEW'S PEERS AND SUBORDINATES IN ECONOMIC
CIRCLES ALL SEE HIM AS SOMEONE WHO ROSE THROUGH THE
RANKS BECAUSE OF HIS INTELLIGENCE, HIS TECHNICAL
ABILITY, AND HIS HARD WORK. OVER YEARS OF DEALING WITH
U.S. NEGOTIATORS ON MANY THORNY BILATERAL TRADE ISSUES,
HE EARNED A REPUTATION AS A STRONG ADVOCATE FOR
ECONOMIC LIBERALIZATION.

¶5. (U) IN 1994, SIEW LEFT THESE ECONOMIC POSTS TO
BECOME CHAIRMAN OF THE EXECUTIVE YUAN'S MAINLAND
AFFAIRS COUNCIL (MAC). IN 1995, SIEW -- AT THE URGING
OF PRESIDENT LEE -- STEPPED DOWN FROM THE MAC TO RUN

FOR THE LEGISLATIVE YUAN (LY) SEAT FROM CHIAYI CITY. SIEW DEFEATED THE INCUMBENT DPP CANDIDATE. WHILE SERVING IN THE LY, SIEW MANAGED PRESIDENT LEE'S SUCCESSFUL CAMPAIGN IN THE MARCH, 1996, PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION.

¶ 6. (C) SIEW HAS PROVEN AN ABLE AND ACTIVE LEGISLATOR, WELL-RESPECTED BY HIS PEERS. HE TOOK THE LEAD IN HELPING TO FORM A NON-PARTISAN CAUCUS WITHIN THE LY AIMED AT PROMOTING ECONOMIC LIBERALIZATION. THIS CAUCUS IN TURN ENSURED LY PASSAGE OF A WHOLE RAFT OF NECESSARY ECONOMIC LEGISLATION. PRESIDENT LEE ALSO TURNED TO SIEW TO SPEARHEAD THE RULING PARTY'S EFFORTS AT LAST DECEMBER'S NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE (NDC), A MULTI-PARTISAN MEETING WHICH HELPED FORGE ISLAND-WIDE CONSENSUS ON ECONOMIC POLICY AND ON CROSS-STRAIT RELATIONS. THE TWO LARGEST PARTIES -- THE KMT AND THE DPP -- ALSO REACHED AGREEMENT AT THAT TIME ON PROPOSALS FOR CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM. SIEW PLAYED A KEY ROLE IN THE INTER-PARTY NEGOTIATIONS THAT ULTIMATELY LED TO THE JULY 1997 ADOPTION OF A PACKAGE OF CONSTITUTIONAL REFORMS BASED ON THE NDC AGREEMENTS.

¶ 7. (C) SIEW HAS REPRESENTED TAIWAN AT APEC LEADERS' CONFERENCES, WHERE HE RUBBED ELBOWS WITH PRESIDENTS AND PRIME MINISTERS. NEVERTHELESS, SIEW IS CONSIDERED BY MOST PEOPLE HERE TO BE A RELATIVELY HUMBLE MAN. IN CONTRAST TO OUTGOING PREMIER LIEN CHAN, WHOSE FATHER WAS A FORMER INTERIOR MINISTER, SIEW COMES FROM MODEST ORIGINS: HIS PARENTS WORKED IN THE FIELDS OUTSIDE CHIAYI. PERHAPS TO REINFORCE THIS IMAGE, SIEW'S STAFF ANNOUNCED AS HE WAS TAKING OFFICE THAT THE NEW PREMIER WOULD DO WITHOUT THE POLICE ESCORTS THAT HIS PREDECESSOR HAD USED, FREQUENTLY TO THE CONSTERNATION OF INCENSED DRIVERS WAVED ASIDE BY THE ESCORT. (SIEW REPORTEDLY WAS UPSET THAT HIS STAFF APPEARED TO BE TRYING TO MAKE LIEN CHAN LOOK BAD AND TOLD THEM TO PUT A LID ON COMMENTS THAT MIGHT PUT A BAD LIGHT ON HIS PREDECESSOR -- WHO REMAINS THE VICE PRESIDENT AND PRESIDENT LEE'S HEIR APPARENT WITHIN THE KMT.) SIEW ALSO HAS A REPUTATION FOR PROBITY AND A STRONG GRASP OF ECONOMIC ISSUES. OBSERVERS HERE ATTRIBUTE HIS SUCCESS WITHIN BOTH THE BUREAUCRACY AND THE LEGISLATURE TO HIS ABILITY TO NEGOTIATE PERSISTENTLY AND EFFECTIVELY WITHOUT ALIENATING HIS INTERLOCUTORS.

VICE PREMIER: JOHN CHANG

¶ 8. (U) JOHN H. CHANG (CHANG HSIAO-YEN) WAS BORN IN 1941 IN JIANGXI PROVINCE OF MAINLAND CHINA. CHANG RECEIVED A BACHELOR OF ARTS DEGREE FROM SOOCHOW UNIVERSITY, TAIPEI, AND STUDIED AT THE BRUSSELS LIBERAL UNIVERSITY, 1970-1971. IN 1976, HE EARNED A MASTERS DEGREE FROM GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY.

¶ 9. (U) CHANG PASSED TAIWAN'S CIVIL SERVICE EXAM IN 1968 AND ENTERED THE FOREIGN SERVICE. AFTER JOINING THE FOREIGN SERVICE, HE SERVED AS A STAFF MEMBER OF THE MOFA EUROPEAN AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT (1971-1972); SECRETARY TO THE ADMINISTRATIVE VICE FOREIGN MINISTER (1972-1973); THIRD AND THEN SECOND SECRETARY AT THE "ROC" EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON, D.C.(1974-1977); CHIEF OF THE FIRST (POLITICAL) SECTION, MOFA NORTH AMERICAN AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT (1977-1980); DEPUTY DIRECTOR, MOFA NORTH AMERICAN AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT (1980-1981); DEPUTY SECRETARY-GENERAL, THE COORDINATION COUNCIL FOR NORTH AMERICAN AFFAIRS (CCNAA), THE NON-GOVERNMENTAL COVER OFFICE FOR TAIWAN'S UNOFFICIAL RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES, 1981; SECRETARY-GENERAL, CCNAA (1981-1982); DIRECTOR, MOFA NORTH AMERICAN AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT (1982-1986); AND ADMINISTRATIVE VICE FOREIGN MINISTER (1986-1989). IN 1989, CHANG LEFT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY TO BECOME DIRECTOR, KMT CENTRAL COMMITTEE OVERSEAS AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT (1989-1990). HE RETURNED TO MOFA TO SERVE AS POLITICAL VICE FOREIGN MINISTER (1990-1993), AND SUBSEQUENTLY WAS NAMED CHAIRMAN OF THE OVERSEAS

CHINESE AFFAIRS COMMISSION, A CABINET-LEVEL POSITION (1993-1996). CHANG HAS ALSO SERVED AS A MEMBER OF THE KMT CENTRAL COMMITTEE SINCE 1988 AND AS A MEMBER OF THE KMT CENTRAL STANDING COMMITTEE SINCE 1996. IN 1996, CHANG WAS ELECTED TO THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (NA), TAIWAN'S CONSTITUTION-AMENDING BODY. HE IS MARRIED TO HELEN HUANG, AND THEY HAVE TWO DAUGHTERS AND ONE SON.

¶10. (C) ALTHOUGH AN ETHNIC MAINLANDER, CHANG IS WELL-LIKED BY ETHNIC TAIWANESE (INCLUDING, REPORTEDLY, PRESIDENT LEE). AN ILLEGITIMATE SON OF THE LATE PRESIDENT CHIANG CHING-KUO, CHANG WAS RAISED IN RATHER HUMBLE CIRCUMSTANCES -- AMONG ETHNIC TAIWANESE PLAYMATES -- OUTSIDE OF TAIPEI. (HE REPORTEDLY IS AS FLUENT IN TAIWANESE AS HE IS IN MANDARIN.) IN RECENT YEARS, CHANG HAS PROVEN LOYAL TO -- AND A VALUABLE ASSET FOR -- THE KMT OF LEE TENG-HUI. DURING THE 1995 LY ELECTION CAMPAIGN, CHANG CAMPAIGNED VIGOROUSLY FOR KMT CANDIDATES IN TAIWAN'S MAINLANDER-DOMINATED MILITARY VILLAGES. GIVEN THE WIDE RESPECT IN THE VILLAGES FOR CHANG, HIS EFFORTS HELPED KEEP THE KMT'S LOSSES THERE TO A MINIMUM. CHANG ALSO PROVED ONE OF THE MOST POPULAR VOTE-GETTERS FOR THE KMT IN THE 1996 NA ELECTION.

¶11. (C) IN LIGHT OF UNRELENTING PRESSURE FROM BEIJING, CHANG FACED CONSIDERABLE DIFFICULTIES AS FOREIGN MINISTER. SOUTH AFRICA -- THE LAST SIGNIFICANT COUNTRY TO MAINTAIN RELATIONS WITH TAIWAN -- ANNOUNCED DURING HIS WATCH THAT IT WOULD SWITCH ALLEGIANCE TO BEIJING. (CHANG AT ONE POINT TERMED THE JOB OF TAIWAN'S FOREIGN MINISTER THE MOST DIFFICULT ONE IN THE WORLD.) STILL, CHANG OBVIOUSLY DID HIS BEST TO IMPLEMENT TAIWAN'S "PRAGMATIC" DIPLOMACY: HE REPEATEDLY VISITED TAIWAN'S FEW REMAINING DIPLOMATIC ALLIES AND ALSO VISITED A NUMBER OF OTHER COUNTRIES IN AN ATTEMPT TO RAISE TAIWAN'S INTERNATIONAL PROFILE. THESE ENTHUSIASTIC AND WHOLE-HEARTED ATTEMPTS TO PROMOTE "PRAGMATIC" DIPLOMACY STOOD IN SHARP CONTRAST TO THE MORE ALOOF OPERATING STYLE OF HIS PREDECESSOR, FRED CHIEN. ORGANIZATIONALLY, CHANG'S TENURE AS FOREIGN MINISTER WAS ALSO NOTEWORTHY FOR HIS ATTEMPTS TO BOOST THE STATUS OF WOMEN OFFICERS IN TAIWAN'S FOREIGN SERVICE; HE ELIMINATED QUOTAS IN THE FOREIGN SERVICE ENTERING CLASSES, THEREBY INCREASING THE PERCENTAGE OF WOMEN PER CLASS FROM 15 PERCENT TO MORE THAN HALF. HE ALSO APPOINTED TAIWAN'S FIRST FEMALE AMBASSADOR. (KATHERINE CHANG -- THE HEAD OF TECRO'S SEATTLE OFFICE -- HAS BEEN ASSIGNED AS AMBASSADOR TO THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN.)

MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS: JASON HU

¶12. (U) JASON HU (HU CHIH-CHIANG) WAS BORN IN 1948 IN JILIN PROVINCE IN MAINLAND CHINA. HE RECEIVED AN LL.B. IN FOREIGN RELATIONS FROM NATIONAL CHENGCHI UNIVERSITY, TAIPEI (1970) AND A MASTER OF SOCIAL SCIENCE FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHAMPTON (1978) AND A PH. D. FROM OXFORD UNIVERSITY (1984). HE SERVED AS A RESEARCH FELLOW AT ST. ANTHONY'S COLLEGE, OXFORD UNIVERSITY, IN 1985, AND AS ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR AND DEPUTY DIRECTOR, ACADEMIC RESEARCH INSTITUTE, NATIONAL SUN YAT-SEN UNIVERSITY, KAOHSIUNG (1986-1990). HE HAS BEEN SECRETARY-GENERAL, "ROC" CHAPTER, WORLD LEAGUE FOR FREEDOM AND DEMOCRACY (1989-1991) AND DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE FIRST BUREAU OF THE PRESIDENTIAL OFFICE AND ENGLISH INTERPRETER FOR PRESIDENT LEE TENG-HUI (1991). HE SERVED AS GOVERNMENT INFORMATION OFFICE DIRECTOR-GENERAL (AND OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN) FROM 1991 TO 1996 AND TECRO WASHINGTON REPRESENTATIVE (1996-1997). HE WAS ELECTED A NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (NA) MEMBER FROM TAICHUNG CITY IN 1996, RECEIVING THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF VOTES OF ANY KMT CANDIDATE IN THE NA ELECTION. HE HAS ALSO SERVED AS A MEMBER OF THE KMT CENTRAL COMMITTEE SINCE 1993.

¶13. (C) AFFABLE AND GREGARIOUS, HU IS WIDELY CREDITED

HERE WITH HAVING HELPED STABILIZE TAIPEI'S RELATIONS WITH WASHINGTON. (EVEN THE PRESIDENCY IMPLICITLY ADMITS NOW THAT HU'S PREDECESSOR IN THE POSITION AS TECRO WASHINGTON HEAD, BENJAMIN LU, WAS LESS THAN SUCCESSFUL IN HANDLING TAIWAN'S ALL-IMPORTANT RELATIONSHIP WITH THE U.S.) HU TAKES ON THE FOREIGN MINISTRY NOT ONLY WITH A GRASP OF THE U.S. RELATIONSHIP BUT ALSO WITH THE GOOD-WILL OF TAIWAN'S HYPER-ACTIVE PRESS AND A SOLID UNDERSTANDING OF THE ISLAND'S ELECTED POLITICS.

MONGOLIAN AND TIBETAN AFFAIRS COMMISSION (MTAC)
CHAIRMAN: KAO KONG-LIAN

¶14. (U) KAO KOONG-LIEN (KAO KUNG-LIEN) WAS BORN IN FUJIAN PROVINCE IN 1946 AND RECEIVED AN MBA FROM NATIONAL CHENGCHI UNIVERSITY, TAIPEI, IN 1969 AND A PH.D. FROM LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY IN 1975. HE PREVIOUSLY SERVED AS PROFESSOR AND CHAIRMAN, DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION, SOOCHOW UNIVERSITY, TAIPEI (1976-1981); DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR, EXECUTIVE YUAN RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND EVALUATION COMMISSION (RDEC) (1981-1983); VICE CHAIRMAN, RDEC (1983-1991); AND MAINLAND AFFAIRS COUNCIL (MAC) VICE CHAIRMAN AND SPOKESMAN (1991-1997).

¶15. (C) AS ONE OF THREE MAC VICE CHAIRMEN, KAO FOCUSED HIS EFFORTS MAINLY ON ECONOMIC RELATIONS ACROSS THE TAIWAN STRAIT. WE FOUND HIM A WILLING AND FRANK INTERLOCUTOR. THE MONGOLIAN AND TIBETAN COMMISSION (MTAC) IS A CONTROVERSIAL LEFTOVER FROM THE DAYS WHEN THE NATIONALISTS CONTROLLED ALL OF MAINLAND CHINA. (THE DPP HOLDS THAT THE MTAC IS AN ANACHRONISM THAT SHOULD BE SCRAPPED.)

MINISTER W/O PORTFOLIO: LIN FENG-CHENG

¶16. (U) LIN FENG-CHENG WAS BORN IN TAIPEI COUNTY IN 1940, AND RECEIVED AN LL.B. FROM NATIONAL CHUNHSING UNIVERSITY LAW COLLEGE, TAIPEI, IN 1963. HE PREVIOUSLY SERVED AS CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF THE CHINA YOUTH CORPS COMMITTEE IN HUALIEN AND TAOYUAN; TAIPEI COUNTY CIVIL AFFAIRS BUREAU DIRECTOR, 1973-1974; TAIPEI COUNTY SOCIAL AFFAIRS BUREAU DIRECTOR, 1974-1976; TAIPEI COUNTY GOVERNMENT CHIEF SECRETARY, 1976-1978; TAIPEI COUNTY CIVIL AFFAIRS BUREAU DIRECTOR, 1978-1980; KMT TAINAN COUNTY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN, 1980-1981; TAIPEI COUNTY MAGISTRATE, 1981-1989; TAIWAN PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT (TPG) CIVIL AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT COMMISSIONER, 1990-1992; KMT TAIWAN PROVINCIAL COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN, 1992-1993; TPG SECRETARY-GENERAL 1993-1994; POLITICAL LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR OF TAIWAN, 1994-1996; AND MINISTER OF INTERIOR, 1996-1997. LIN HAS ALSO SERVED AS A MEMBER OF THE KMT CENTRAL COMMITTEE SINCE 1988 AND A MEMBER OF THE KMT CENTRAL STANDING COMMITTEE SINCE 1993. HE HAS ONE SON AND TWO DAUGHTERS. ONE OF HIS DAUGHTERS MARRIED A CHINESE-AMERICAN ATTORNEY IN HAWAII 1996.

¶17. (C) LIN STEPPED DOWN AS INTERIOR MINISTER IN MAY, 1997, IN ORDER TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE INABILITY OF THE POLICE TO SOLVE A SERIES OF HIGH-PROFILE MURDERS AND SEVERAL SPECTACULAR UNSOLVED CRIMINAL CASES. LIN IS SAID TO BE CLOSE BOTH TO PRESIDENT LEE TENG-HUI AND TO TAIWAN PROVINCIAL GOVERNOR JAMES SOONG. GIVEN HIS STRONG BASE IN TAIPEI COUNTY AND HIS YEARS OF EXPERIENCE, LIN REMAINS A POWERFUL FIGURE IN HIS OWN RIGHT IN TAIWAN POLITICS.

MINISTER W/O PORTFOLIO: HUANG TA-CHOU

¶18. (U) HUANG TA-CHOU WAS BORN IN 1936 IN TAINAN COUNTY. HE RECEIVED B.S. (1960) AND M.S. (1962)

DEGREES IN AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS FROM NATIONAL TAIWAN UNIVERSITY (NTU), AS WELL AS A PH.D. (1971) IN RURAL DEVELOPMENT FROM CORNELL UNIVERSITY. HUANG SERVED AS AN INSTRUCTOR, NTU (1966-1968); ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, NTU (1971-1976); SENIOR RESEARCH FELLOW, EAST-WEST CENTER, HAWAII (1976-1978); PROFESSOR, NTU (1976); COUNSELOR, EXECUTIVE YUAN COUNCIL FOR ECONOMIC PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT (CEPD) (1977-1978); ADVISOR TO TAIWAN PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT (TPG) (1979-1981); EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, EXECUTIVE YUAN RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, AND EVALUATION COMMISSION (1979-1981); TPG DEPUTY SECRETARY-GENERAL (1981-1984); DEAN, NTU GENERAL AFFAIRS (1984-1987); TAIPEI CITY GOVERNMENT SECRETARY-GENERAL (1987-1990); EISENHOWER FELLOW IN THE U.S. 1989; TAIPEI CITY (NON-ELECTED) MAYOR (1990-1994); COUNCIL MEMBER, CEPD 1995-1996; AND EY RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND EVALUATION COMMISSION CHAIRMAN (1996-1997).

¶19. (C) WHILE AT CORNELL, HUANG WAS A FELLOW STUDENT AND CLOSE FRIEND OF PRESIDENT LEE. (LEE'S ENEMIES ASSERT -- WITHOUT ANY PROOF THAT WE ARE AWARE OF -- THAT HUANG HELPED THE FUTURE PRESIDENT WRITE HIS AWARD-WINNING DISSERTATION.) HUANG -- WHO MUMBLES BADLY AS A PUBLIC SPEAKER AND WHOSE ADMINISTRATION WAS WRACKED BY CHARGES OF CORRUPTION AND INCOMPETENCE -- LOST THE 1994 MAYORAL ELECTION TO DPP CANDIDATE CHEN SHUI-BIAN, COMING IN THIRD IN A THREE CANDIDATE RACE; HUANG HAS SINCE STAYED OUT OF THE LIMELIGHT. HUANG HAS SERVED AS A MEMBER OF THE KMT CENTRAL COMMITTEE SINCE 1988 AND A MEMBER OF THE KMT CENTRAL STANDING COMMITTEE SINCE

¶1993.

MINISTER W/O PORTFOLIO: CHEN CHIEN-MIN

¶20. (U) CHEN CHIEN-MIN WAS BORN IN FUJIAN PROVINCE IN 1942 AND RECEIVED AN LL.B. FROM NATIONAL TAIWAN UNIVERSITY, TAIPEI, AND AN LL.M. FROM CHINESE CULTURE UNIVERSITY, TAIPEI. HE PREVIOUSLY SERVED AS JUDGE AND COURT SUPERINTENDENT, TAIPEI DISTRICT COURT; JUDGE, TAIWAN HIGH COURT; SUPERINTENDENT, KINMEN, HUALIEN, CHIAYI, AND TAINAN DISTRICT COURTS; COUNSELOR, JUDICIAL YUAN; ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, TAMKANG UNIVERSITY, TAIPEI; AND KMT AT-LARGE LEGISLATOR, 1992-1997.

MINISTER W/O PORTFOLIO: CHAN HUO-SHENG

¶21. (U) CHAN HUO-SHENG WAS BORN IN TAIWAN 1949. HE RECEIVED HIS B.A. IN SOCIOLOGY FROM NATIONAL TAIWAN UNIVERSITY, TAIPEI. HE LATER STUDIED AT OXFORD UNIVERSITY AND THE UNIVERSITY OF WALES, WHERE HE EARNED HIS PH.D. IN SOCIAL WELFARE. HE PREVIOUSLY SERVED AS PROFESSOR AND CHAIRMAN OF THE NTU SOCIAL SCIENCE DEPARTMENT AND NTU SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH INSTITUTE DIRECTOR BEFORE HE WAS APPOINTED VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE LABOR AFFAIRS COUNCIL IN 1995. HE RESIGNED AND RETURNED TO TEACH AT NTU IN MAY OF THIS YEAR.

EXECUTIVE YUAN SECRETARY-GENERAL: CHANG YU-HUI

¶22. (U) CHANG YU-HUI WAS BORN IN TAIWAN IN 1941 AND RECEIVED A B.ED. FROM NATIONAL TAIWAN NORMAL UNIVERSITY IN TAIPEI AND A BACHELOR OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION FROM TAMKANG UNIVERSITY IN TAIPEI. HE LATER STUDIED SOCIAL SCIENCE AT MADRID UNIVERSITY, SPAIN. CHANG JOINED THE MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS AS A STAFF MEMBER 1975. LATER, HE BECAME CHIEF OF THE NATIONAL CORPORATION COMMISSION'S PERSONNEL OFFICE; DEPUTY DIRECTOR AND ADVISOR OF THE TAIWAN SUGAR CORPORATION; MOEA COUNSELOR; TAIWAN ALUMINUM CORPORATION PRESIDENT; CHAIRMAN, NATIONAL CORPORATION COMMISSION ADVISOR; AND TAIWAN SUGAR CORPORATION PRESIDENT (1992-1995) AND

CHAIRMAN (1995-1997). CHANG HAS WORKED WITH VINCENT SIEW AT MOEA AND REPORTEDLY IS A CLOSE FRIEND OF THE NEW PREMIER.

CENTRAL PERSONNEL ADMINISTRATION DIRECTOR-GENERAL: WEI

CHI-LIN

¶23. (U) WEI CHI-LIN WAS BORN IN TAIWAN IN 1947 AND RECEIVED A B.A. IN ECONOMICS FROM NATIONAL TAIWAN UNIVERSITY, AN MBA FROM LONDON UNIVERSITY, ENGLAND, AND A PH.D. IN THE HUMANITIES FROM PARIS UNIVERSITY. HE PREVIOUSLY SERVED AS DEPUTY CHIEF FOR RESEARCH AT THE CHINA INSTITUTE FOR ECONOMIC RESEARCH IN TAIPEI, AND PROFESSOR AND CHAIRMAN OF THE NTU INTERNATIONAL TRADE DEPARTMENT. WHEN APPOINTED TO HIS CURRENT POSITION, HE WAS A PROFESSOR AT NTU BUSINESS MANAGEMENT RESEARCH INSTITUTE AND CHAIRMAN OF THE ASIAN-PACIFIC ENTERPRISE MANAGEMENT RESEARCH ASSOCIATION, AS WELL AS EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF A NON-PARTISAN CAUCUS OF LEGISLATIVE YUAN MEMBERS DEDICATED TO ENSURING ADOPTION OF NECESSARY ECONOMIC LEGISLATION. HE HAS ALSO BEEN AN ADVISOR TO THE DPP.

NATIONAL HEALTH ADMINISTRATION DIRECTOR-GENERAL: CHAN

CHI-HSIEN

¶24. (U) CHAN CHI-HSIEN WAS BORN IN CHANGHUA COUNTY IN 1949, AND EARNED HIS BACHELOR OF MEDICINE DEGREE FROM CHUNG SHAN MEDICAL COLLEGE, TAICHUNG. HE WENT TO THE U.S. IN 1975 FOR ADVANCED STUDIES AND PRACTICED MEDICINE THERE. HE RETURNED TO TAIWAN TO SERVE AS DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT OF CHI MEI HOSPITAL IN 1988 IN TAINAN AND LATER WAS PROMOTED TO SUPERINTENDENT.

¶25. (C) DR. CHAN COMES FROM AN OPPOSITION POLITICAL FAMILY -- HIS MOTHER, CHAN CHEN AI-CHU, IS A FORMER (INDEPENDENT) COUNCIL MEMBER IN CHANGHUA COUNTY AND HIS BROTHER, CHAN CHI-CHAO, WAS MAYOR OF YUANLIN TOWN FOR NINE YEARS. REPORTEDLY, THE KMT MADE A CONSCIOUS DECISION TO LEAVE SOMEONE NOT CLOSELY AFFILIATED WITH THE RULING PARTY IN CHARGE OF THE NATIONAL HEALTH ADMINISTRATION: THE NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM IS IN SERIOUS FINANCIAL DIFFICULTY AND WILL BE THE SUBJECT OF MUCH DEBATE WITHIN THE LY OVER THE COMING MONTHS.

¶26. (C) CHAN RENOUNCED HIS U.S. CITIZENSHIP IN ORDER TO ACCEPT THE POST OF NATIONAL HEALTH ADMINISTRATION DIRECTOR GENERAL, A DECISION THAT HE TOLD AIT WAS VERY DIFFICULT FOR HIM PERSONALLY TO MAKE.

RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND EVALUATION COMMISSION

CHAIRMAN: YUNG CHAUR-SHIN

¶27. (U) YUNG CHAUR-SHIN (YANG CHAO-HSIANG) WAS BORN IN TAIWAN IN 1946. HE EARNED HIS B.A. FROM NATIONAL TAIWAN NORMAL UNIVERSITY (NTNU), TAIPEI, IN 1970, AN M.A. FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA IN 1975, AND A PH.D. FROM PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY IN 1978. HE PREVIOUSLY SERVED AS ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS (1978-1980); ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, NTNU (1980-1982); PROFESSOR AND CHAIRMAN, NTNU INDUSTRIAL ARTS EDUCATION DEPARTMENT (1982-1986); DIRECTOR, MINISTRY OF EDUCATION TECHNICAL AND VOCATIONAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT (1986-1989); ADMINISTRATIVE VICE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (1989-1994); AND POLITICAL VICE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (1994-1997). HE WAS ELECTED A MEMBER OF THE KMT CENTRAL COMMITTEE IN AUGUST 1997.

JOHNSON